

Then the Fire of The Lord Fell (1 Kings 18:36-39)

- I. There Must Be a Confrontation With the False Gods
  - A. Confront The Source of Idolatry (Ch. 16:30, 33; Ch. 18:17-19)
  - B. Confront The Spread of Idolatry (Vs. 21-23)
- II. There Should Be Confidence In The True God
  - A. The Challenge To Misplaced Faith (Vs. 25-29)
  - B. The Confidence of Truth-Based Faith (Vs. 30, 33-35)
- III. There Will Be a Conformation From A Powerful God
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  - B. The Fire Converted the Sinner (Vs. 39)
  - C. The Fire Condemned the Stubborn (Vs. 40)

Then the Fire of the Lord Fell (1 Kings 18:36-39)

One day a neighborhood decided to have an ecumenical worship service the all met in a large community center to worship. While worshipping the building caught on fire and the groups all responded differently. The Methodists started looking for the sprinklers. The Baptist "yelled where is the water?" The Quakers quietly praised God for the blessing that fire brings. The Lutherans posted a notice on the door declaring that fire was evil. The Catholics took pledges to cover the damages. The Pentecostal praised God and shouted "Holy Smoke!" The Fundamentalist said "This is the Judgment of God" The Christian Scientists readily agreed there really was no fire at all. The Presbyterian appointed a chair person who was to appoint a committee to look into the matter and submit a written report to the session. The Salvation Army took their drums and brass formed a parade and marched.

I. There Must Be A Confrontation With the false Gods. - You may ask what does a story from 3000 years ago have to do with today. Well clearly is

Just as rampant. Baal's curses housed sport  
**A. Confront the Source of idolatry**  
1 Kings 16:30, 33 Ahaziah sits on the throne a wicked man, wife Jezebel has led nation in to Baal worship  
There is a confrontation 18:17 Ahaziah said Elijah was troubling Israel when it was Ahaziah's idolatry. Elijah was not a trouble maker but trouble shooter.  
VS 18-19 Showdown at Carmel. We are going to pit your God against true God. We are going to settle this once and for all. Idolatry needs to be confronted.

**B. Confront the Spread of idolatry**  
VS 21 "halt" it means to limp.  
Israel is limping along on two Gods, Cuthers. Their feet were firmly planted in the air. Elijah is telling them you can't serve two Gods. Jesus said you will love one and despise the other. VS 22-23. We are going to settle this on the leadership and the laity as well. As your preacher ask why do you limp along on 2 Gods? Teenage Why?

**II There Should Be Confidence in The True God** - The people needed not only a declaration from God but a demonstration from



1) ...formed a parade and marched right out of the building.

I do not want to ever see this building on fire but I do want to see this church on fire. The need for our families and our churches and our nation is not for men, machines, money, methods, might or manpower it is for the fires of revival to once again fall on the church of the living God. I want us to look at this heaven sent revival fire sent in the desperate days of Elijah and pray that God would do the same for us today! There Are three things that we must do to see the fire fall...

1) Where's the fire? I'm afraid that's the question that is asked in many of our churches today. Where's the fire? The church is to be a furnace not a refrigerator. The real test of a church is not fame (how known it is), finances (how much money it has) figures (how many people go there), but the real test of a great church is it's fire. Is there fire in the pulpit? Is there fire in the pew? Jeremiah said the word was like a fire in his bones. There misplaced faith got them nowhere! Psalms 115:4-8 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they speak not; eyes have they, but they see not; they have ears, but they hear not; noses have they, but they smell not; they have hands, but they handle not; feet have they, but they walk not; neither speak they through their throat. They that make them are like unto them, so is every one that trusteth in them.

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2. God. God to manifest the Real deal  
1. The Challenge to mis placed faith  
This was a showdown between  
God and Baal on the battle field of  
truth and prayer was the only  
weapon. Elijah says you go first.  
Haul at it boys. VS 25-26 Go ahead  
pray Pagan, muslim, hoodist, Hindu  
for it is not the sincerity of their pray  
er but the object of prayer that makes  
a difference. You can be sincere and be  
sincerely wrong! Their faith was mis  
placed. There was no fire VS 27-29. Where's the

3. The Confidence of Truth Based Faith  
Notice what Elijah does first VS 30  
He repaired the altar - worship - Pulpit  
God in proper place. The church will  
never be revitalized until God is prio  
ritized! VS 33 Sacrifice - Every Sacrifice  
is a picture of Jesus. Revival fires have  
an worship of God and work of God in Christ  
VS 33 Water. This illustrates Faith!  
The God that can not burn me (used)  
is not worth dry faith. We would have  
used Karasew + match to help God out. Bring God

III. There Will Be a Confirmation  
from a Powerful God. God can  
firm his existence in a miraculous  
way fire fell from heaven. Prophet



and the fire fell! VS 36-37. You want me surprised

**A. It consumed the Sacrifice - VS 38**

Nothing was left. Wood stones walls sacrifice Nothing consumed by fire. You know it there had been no altar if the fire consumed people. But it fell on sacrifice Jesus. Judgment should have fallen on me but it fell on Christ. One day fire will consume earth. But not me Fire Proof

**B. It Converted the Sinner - VS 39**

The people stopped halting! Who brought the people to God. Elijah No God did! Ed Ballou is a great man. Thousand came to Christ under misty but who brought them God did! Only God brings people to himself. God will use you for his glory, you will not use.

**C. It Condemned the Stubborn**

These rebellious idolaters were brought to Judgment. VS 40. The old preacher used to say he turned that bunch of idolaters into a non proph organization! Any and every prophet preacher teacher politician that represent a false God one day judgment will befall.

**IV. Closing** Has the fire fell? How do you know? #1 Sin is burned out #2 Satan is burned in #3 Self is burned up. He is the God that answers by fire

1) You would be surprised what the church of God could see and accomplish if all of our endeavors were to the ultimate purpose of God's glory! What did the fire do? 3 things:

2) ...you will not use Him for your glory!